

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Another specific objective is to provide a novel system where the AMR device can be an integral part of the meter cover, which allows the AMR device to be pre-assembled thereon and then fitted to the meter by a simple screw-on procedure, ~~with out~~ without affecting meter operation. --

Please replace paragraph [0039] with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Referring to Figures 1 and 2, meter 1 has a support base 2 of elements 2a, 2b, and 2c, usually of metal, and a cover 3. Meter 1 measures the amount of a utility commodity that is used at a facility, such as a home, office, or other location. Utility commodities that may be measured include electric power, gas, and water. Meter wheel 4 rotates at an angular velocity that is proportional to the amount of the utility commodity that is being used. --

Please replace paragraph [0043] by the following rewritten paragraphs:

-- Usage reader 8 is directly attached to cover 3. Reader 8 is preferably an optical pulse reader that determines the rate at which meter wheel 4 rotates. It may then convert this rotational information to KYZ (a type of electrical signal) or other pulse data. Reader 8 senses the rotation by using photo-sensing technology, which is well known in the industry (e.g., American innovations of Austin, Texas and NERTEC

Design, Inc. of Quebec, Canada sell pulse sensors) and not a part of this invention. (Pulse reading may be performed, for example, by means of an infra red sensor that detects a black line on the meter wheel.)

Reader 8 is provided with adjustable screw connectors 10, which are used to integrally attach a reader 8 to cover 3. Connectors 10 may be used to align and adjust the position of reader 8 to allow accurate meter reading of rotating meter wheel 4. A communications device 11, typically a computer modem, connects AMR 9 to telephone jack 12, which forms part of a public switched telephone network (PSTN). Jack Jacks 12, which are housed in enclosure 18, may be connected to internet 13. --

Please replace paragraph [0045] by the following rewritten paragraph:

--In Figure 5, cover 15 3 has a lateral extension 16, to house the AMR (not shown). Communication and power attachment may be made through plugs 17. Alternatively, the communication and power leads may exit ~~cover 15~~ extension 16 through openings (not shown) which are located in the base or the back of the unit. --